

DELL
A DELL COMIC
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NO. 10 10¢

Wild

Bill Elliott

comics





CHIEF COCHISE

SAVAGE LEADER OF THE APACHES

COCHISE HATED THE WHITE MEN. IN 1861, HE WAS FALSELY ACCUSED OF STEALING A BOY FROM FORT BUCHANAN. HE WAS CAPTURED BY THE SEVENTH CAVALRY AT APACHE PASS AND CHARGED WITH THE ABDUCTION OF THE BOY, BUT HE DREW A KNIFE AND SLASHED HIS WAY TO FREEDOM. HIS COMPANIONS WERE HELD AND HANGED. COCHISE WAS FURIOUS AND DECLARED WAR ON ALL WHITE MEN. HE BURNED THIRTEEN VICTIMS ALIVE, TORTURED FIVE TO DEATH, AND DRAGGED FIFTEEN TO DEATH AT THE END OF A ROPE. FOR TEN YEARS, HE KEPT THE SOLDIERS AT BAY WHILE BANDS OF HIS PICKED WARRIORS PLUNDERED

THE WAGON TRAINS, MURDERED UNPROTECTED SETTLERS, AND STOLE GREAT HERDS OF CATTLE AND HORSES. IN THE EARLY 1870'S, COCHISE MET

WITH GENERAL HOWARD AND ARRANGED A PEACE. HIS TRIBE WAS GIVEN A RESERVATION IN THE DRAGON MOUNTAINS, KNOWN AS THE STRONGHOLD. A SHORT TIME LATER, AND AFTER HAVING LIVED A VIOLENT LIFE, THIS NOTORIOUS APACHE CHIEF DIED A NATURAL DEATH. HE WAS BURIED ON AN ISOLATED MESA SOMEWHERE NEAR THE CANYON ENTRANCE TO THE STRONGHOLD. NO ONE KNOWS JUST EXACTLY WHERE THE GRAVE OF COCHISE IS LOCATED.



Wild Bill Elliott

IN THE
OROS PASS

WILD BILL ELLIOTT AND PENNY DRAKE RIDE TOWARD
THE ROUGH, TOUGH THRIVING GATLETOWN OF OROS...

YOUR GRANDDAD MIGHT NOT
LIKE YOU COMING TO ME
FOR HELP, PENNY!

OH, HE'LL BLOW UP, BUT HE'S TOO
PROUD AND STUBBORN TO DO IT
HIMSELF, EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE
A GOOD FRIEND OF FATHER'S!

RECKON HE CAN'T
GET TOO ANGRY AT
SUCH A PRETTY
GRANDDAUGHTER!

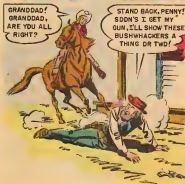
I'LL HAVE TO TAKE
A CHANCE ON THAT,
MR. ELLIOTT! ALL THE
DRAKES HAVE TEMPERSS

WAIT A MINUTE!
WHAT'S GOING ON
UP AHEAD---

OH!!--
TROUBLE---

TROUBLE SEEMS TO BE THIS
TOWN'S TRADE-MARK! LOOK
AT THAT!

WHY? WHY? IT'S
GRANDDAD!
OH, NO---DON'T!



THAT'S JUST IT, MR. ELLIOTT! GRANDDAD HASN'T ANY WITNESSES, BUT DAPPER THINKS I MIGHT HAVE SEEN IT, TOO! HE ISN'T SURE!

I SEE, PENNY! BUT WHY THE POISONING? WHAT'S BEHIND THE WHOLE THING?



READY TO GO, GRANDDAD?

YES! 'TAIN'T TOO HARD TO FIGGER, BILL! MY RANCH CONTROLS SPRINGS AND HEADWATERS FOR MOST OF THE OTHERS IN THESE PARTS! IF DAPPER CAN FORCE ME OUT, HE'LL HOLD ALL THE CARDS! AND THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS TO DO!



HMM!...PENNY CAN STAY WITH HER FRIENDS HERE IN TOWN! WE'LL GO TO YOUR RANCH AND HAVE A MEETING WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS TONIGHT!

I'LL DO WHAT-EVER YOU SAY, WILD BILL!



HURRY BACK, GRANDDAD!

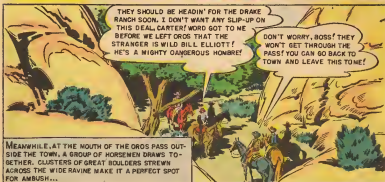
SOON AS WE GET THE OTHER RANCHERS, WE'LL BE BACK TO TAKE CARE O' THEN RENEGADES!

WITH WHAT SILAS KNOWS, DAPPER IS SURE TO TRY TO PUT HIM OUT OF THE WAY.

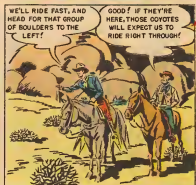
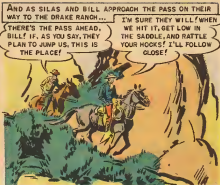


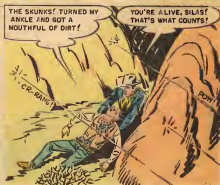
THEY SHOULD BE HEADIN' FOR THE DRAKE RANCH SOON. I DON'T WANT ANY SLIP-UP ON THIS DEAL, CARTER! WORD GOT TO ME BEFORE WE LEFT ORGS THAT THE STRANGER IS WILD BILL ELLIOTT! HE'S A MIGHTY DANGEROUS HOMBRE!

DON'T WORRY, BOSS! THEY WON'T GET THROUGH THE PASS! YOU CAN GO BACK TO TOWN AND LEAVE THIS TONE!



MEANWHILE, AT THE MOUTH OF THE ORGS PASS OUTSIDE THE TOWN, A GROUP OF HORSEMEN DRAWS TOGETHER. CLUSTERS OF GREAT BOULDERS STREWN ACROSS THE WIDE RAVINE MAKE IT A PERFECT SPOT FOR AMBUSH...







BLAST THEM FOR
DOUBLE-CROSSIN'
FOOLS! I THINK
I HIT SILAS,
THOUGH!

THEY MUST HAVE
SUSPECTED SOMETHIN',
RIDIN' PLUMB FOR
THEM ROCKS THE WAY
THEY DID!



IT WON'T DO THEM ANY GOOD! TELL
RODGERS TO GET HIS HOSS, AND
HEAD FOR THAT CLIFF. HE KNOWS
WHAT TO DO WITH THE STUFF
WE BROUGHT ALONG!

OKAY,
GAPPER!



WHEW, BUT THAT WAS CLOSE!
WHY---YOU'VE BEEN HIT, SILAS!

"TAINT' NOTHIN',
BILL! JEST SKINT
ACROSS MY
SHOULDER!



I'LL TEND TO IT AS SOON
AS I SEE WHAT THEY'RE
UP TO! THINGS ARE A MITE
TOO QUIET OUT THERE NOW!

WE AINT A-RUNNIN'
NO MORE, SON! I
CAN JUST ABOUT
HOBBLE ON THIS
HERE ANKLE!



HUH!---
MY ARM!

BANG!

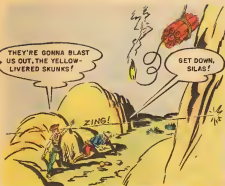


GOT ONE, SILAS! THAT
SHOULD HOLD THEM
A WHILE!

CLATTER-
CLOP-
CLATTER!

I'D LIKE TUN---
WHAT'S THAT
NOISE?



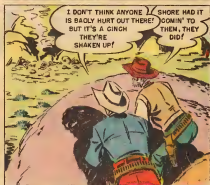
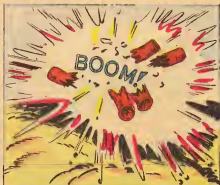


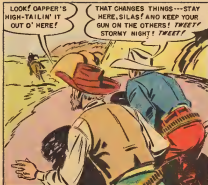
THE SLENDER ROPE SLITHERS SILENTLY DOWN THE FACE OF THE CLIFF, DANGLING ITS DEADLY GARGO. THE BURNING FUSE GROWS DANGEROUSLY SHORTER...



BILL MAKES A DASH FOR
THE WALL OF THE CLIFF!







LOOK! GAPPER'S
HIGH-TAILIN' IT
OUT O' HERE!

THAT CHANGES THINGS---STAY
HERE, SILAS! AND KEEP YOUR
GUN ON THE OTHERS! TWEET!
STORMY NIGHT! TWEET!



I'M GOING
AFTER GAPPER!

OKAY, WILD
BILL!



NO YOU DON'T, YOU
BLASTE0 BUSHWHACKER!

BANG!



GOOD WORK, SILAS!
LET'S GO, STORMY!



COME ON, STORMY! WE
WANT TO BE RIGHT ON
HIS HEELS WHEN GAPPER
HITS OROS!



WHOA, STORMY! WE
KNOW WHERE HE
IS NOW!

MR. ELLIOTT! MR.
ELLIOTT! WILD BILL!

BILL AND STORMY REACH OROS JUST IN TIME TO SEE GAPPER
RUN UP THE STEPS INTO HIS OFFICE...

WHERE'S GRANOODAD?
IS HE ALL RIGHT?

RIGHT AS RAIN, MISS PENNY!
HE'S RIDING HERO ON A GANG
OF RENEGADES WHO TRIED TO
AMBUSH US!



THANK GOODNESS! I WAS
SO WORRIED! ESPECIALLY
WHEN WE HEARD DAPPER
AND HIS MEN HAD GONE
OUT OF TOWN!

PENNY---TAKE ME
TO THE SHERIFF!



SHERIFF McNEILL? WHY,
YES! HE'S ONLY A
HOUSE OR TWO AWAY!

GOOD! I WANT TO
TALK TO HIM PRONTO!



---AND THAT'S WHAT
HAPPENED! SHERIFF,
I'D LIKE YOU TO
DEPUTIZE ME!

RECKON WE'RE ALL ON TO
DAPPER AT LAST, WILD
BILL! JUST RAISE YORE
RIGHT HAND!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN THE
HOME OF SHERIFF McNEILL---

---WILD BILL ELLIOTT REPEATS THE OATH WHICH
MAKES HIM A DEPUTY SHERIFF!

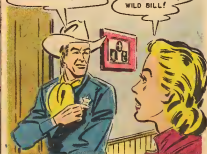
---THAT MAKES YOU A
DEPUTY, YOUNG FELLER!
THE REST IS UP TO YOU!

THANKS,
SHERIFF McNEILL!
IT WILL BE A
PLEASURE!



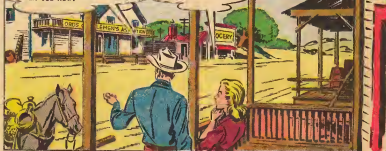
YOU STAY RIGHT HERE WITH
THE SHERIFF UNTIL SILAS OR
I COME FOR YOU, PENNY!

BUT--- BUT DAPPER
IS A VERY
DANGEROUS MAN,
WILD BILL!



I KNOW DAPPER IS DANGEROUS! BUT I ALSO KNOW WHAT HE'S UP TO, AND THAT HE HAS TO BE STOPPED! THAT'S MY JOB NOW!

DON'T YOU THINK HE MIGHT HAVE ESCAPED WHILE WE WERE INSIDE?



NO, PENNY! HIS HOSS HAS LOPED OFF ON HIM-- AND BESIDES, STORMY HAS BEEN OUT THERE, AND HE'S A MIGHTY GOOD WATCHDOG!

YOU'LL STILL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL, WILD BILL!

GO INSIDE, PENNY! THERE MAY BE GUNPLAY. LET'S GO, STORMY!

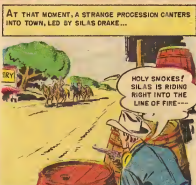


I'VE GOT ALL THE CASH, NOW I'LL HEAD FOR THE BORDER AND LEAVE CARTER AND THE OTHERS HOLDIN' THE---WHA--?

BLAST YOU, ELLIOTT! I'LL GET YOU IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!

WOW! THAT WAS CLOSE!





YOU'LL BE
FIRST, SILAS!



ANXIOUS TO GET SILAS, DAPPER OPENS THE
DOOR AND THRUSTS THE MUZZLE OF HIS
SHOTGUN OUTSIDE, AIMING SQUARELY AT THE
OLD RANCHER ---

BLAM!



NO
YOU ODN'T!

YOU CAN DROP THAT GUN RIGHT
NOW, DAPPER! THIS IS THE END
OF THE TRAIL FOR YOU! YOU CAN
JOIN THE PARADE TO THE
GALABOOSE!

OUGHTA SHOOT
THE SNEAKIN'
VARMINT INSTEAD
O' JAILIN' HIM,
BILL!



LATER, AT THE SHERIFF'S HOME---

THEY'RE ALL UNDER
LOCK AND KEY,
SHERIFF McNEILL!
GUESS YOU'LL NEED
A NEW DEPUTY NOW!

NIGHTY
SHORT TERM
OF OFFICE!
MAYBE I'
OUGHTA TAKE
THAT JOB!

MAYBE YOU
OUGHT TO AT
THAT, SILAS!
BUT I'M
FEELING
BETTER SINCE
MY WIFE
RETURNED FROM
HER TRIP EAST,
AND I STOPPED
EATING DAPPER'S
FOOD!



REGKON WE'LL BE
RIDING, SILAS! DON'T
WORRY ABOUT THAT
DEPUTY JOB! YOU'LL
PROBABLY BE HEADING
THE GATTELMEN NOW!

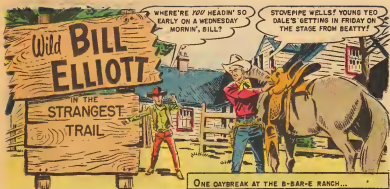
WOULDN'T SAY THAT AT ALL,
PENNY! IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU
FETCHIN' BILL AND STORMY, THIS
HERE STUBBORN OLD FOOL MIGHT
HAVE BEEN DEAD! WE'RE NIGHTY
GRATEFUL, WILD BILL!

I GUESS I WASN'T
MUCH HELP!

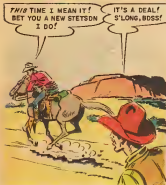
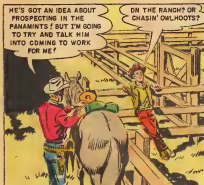


GOOD RANCHING, SILAS! GOOD-
BYE, PENNY! LET'S GO, STORMY!





ONE DAYBREAK AT THE B-BAR-E RANCH...



HI THERE, HAZY! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND YOU OUT THIS WAY!

NOR I YOU, WILLIAM! I AM ON MY WAY TO STOVEPIPE WELLS!

SO AM I! BUT IT'S TOO FAR TO MAKE IT BEFORE DARK SO---

PRECISELY WHY I PAUSED HERE, WILLIAM! PERCHANCE YOU WILL JOIN ME IN A MODEST REPAST AND A SOUND NIGHT'S SLEEP!



YOU TOOK THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY MOUTH! SAY! YOU'VE GOT A FINE LOT OF GOODS ABOARD! THE LADIES OF STOVEPIPE WELLS OUGHT TO WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS!

NOT THE LADIES OF STOVEPIPE WELLS! ONE LADY FROM DES MOINES! MISS LAVINA DOBBS! AH, A LOVELY NAME! A DELIGHTFUL PERSONALITY! I WONDER WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE!



SOUNDS AS IF YOU'D BEEN CARRYING ON ONE OF THOSE MAIL-ORDER ROMANCES!

SO I HAVE! AND NOW MY JOY IS UNBOUNDED! LAVINA COMES TO WED ME!

ISN'T IT KIND OF RISKY, SIGNING UP FOR A BRIDE-SIGHT UNSEEN?

ALL LIFE IS A GAMBLE, WILLIAM!--



BUT--I DO HOPE SHE LIKES
TO TRAVEL, IS A GOOD COOK
AND NOT TOO TINID!

GREAT GRIEF! YOU
CERTAINLY DON'T
KNOW MUCH
ABOUT HER!

OH, BUT I DO, WILLIAM! I KNOW
SHE IS A SPINSTER, ARRIVES
ON THE BEATTY STAGE ON
FRIDAY-- AND POSSESSES A
COWRY OF TWO THOUSAND
DOLLARS!

WOW! WHAT ARE YOU
FIGURING ON GOING
WITH ALL THAT DINEROP?

BUYING A
NEW AND
LARGER
WAGON WITH
THE LATEST
IMPROVEMENTS!

OH, WILLIAM! IF YOU BUT KNEW HOW LONG
I HAVE DREAMED OF OWNING ONE-- AND
OF SHARING IT WITH A CHARMING HELPMATE!

BETTER STOP DREAMING AND
GET SOME SLEEP, HAZY!
WE'LL HAVE TO GET AN
EARLY START TO REACH
STOVEPIPE WELLS AHEAD
OF THE STAGE!

LATER...

WHAT!
HOOFBEATS!

GAZZZAAA--



HOLD IT, PETE! AIN'T THAT
A CAMPFIRE GLOWIN' DOWN
IN THOSE TREES?

YEAH! AN' TWO HORSES!
DON'T SEE ANY
HOMBRES THOUGH!



THEY'RE PROBABLY SLEEPIN' NEAR
THE FIRE! G'M ON! WE CAN USE
SOME CHUCK AN' FRESH MOUNTS!



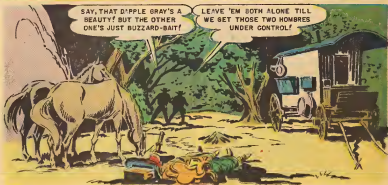
SH! TWO MEN ARE SNEAKING THIS
WAY! THEY LEFT THEIR HORSES
UP IN THE ROCKS! PRETEND YOU'RE
ASLEEP TILL WE FIND OUT WHAT
THEY'RE UP TO!

ER-- A--
WILLIAM?
WHAT--?



A PEDDLER'S
WAGON! THIS'LL
REALLY BE
A HAUL!

NO LOADIN' UP ON JIMCRACKS!
WE'LL NEED THE SPACE FOR
WHAT'S COMIN' THROUGH
DAYLIGHT PASS TOMORROW!



SAY, THAT D'APPLE GRAY'S A
BEAUTY! BUT THE OTHER
ONE'S JUST BUZZARD-BAIT!

LEAVE 'EM BOTH ALONE TILL
WE GET THOSE TWO HOMBRES
UNDER CONTROL!



DON'T RECKON HE CAN
REACH ME UP HERE!



IF I CAN SWING OVER ONTO THAT
LIMB, I CAN PRACTICALLY FALL
INTO MY OWN SADDLE!



MADE IT! AN' THE GRAY'S GIVIN'
ME UP! I AM RUNNIN' IN LUCK!



MEANWHILE...

I MUST DO SOMETHING!
WILLIAM CANNOT HANDLE
THOSE DESPERADOS
ALONE!



WILLIAM!
KNOCK HIM
OVER THIS
WAY!



OKAY, HAZY?
THERE HE IS!

UGH!



BUT AS NARTY STAGGERS BACK...
HE PULLS BILL WITH HIM...



AND HAZY MAKES A SLIGHT ERROR...



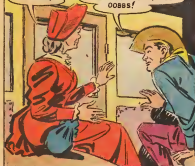


BILL ELLIOTT MUST BE A YOU WILL!
MOST INTERESTING MAN, MISTER HE'S MEETING
DALE! I SHOULD LIKE TO MEET ME IN---
HIM!



MERCY! WHAT
IS THAT?

MASKED BANDITS! ODWN ON
THE FLOOR QUICK, MISS
GOBBS!



KEEP GOIN, ANDY! I'LL
HOLD 'EM OFF!

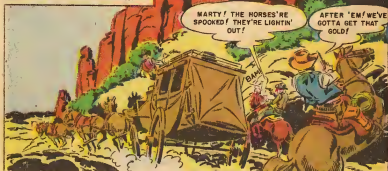


THEY GOT TOM!
I'LL HAFTA PULL
UP!





BUT PETE SPOTS ANDY'S MOVE...







MISS DOBBS!
YOU FAKED THAT
FAINT!

OF COURSE! HOW ELSE WOULD WE
EVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY
THOSE CROOKS?



MY! HE'S AWFULLY
HIGH UP! WHAT DO I DO
NOW?

PICK UP THE
REINS, AND
FOLLOW ME!



SORRY WE HAVEN'T ANY SADDLES,
MA'AM! RIDING BAREBACK'S KINDA
ROUGH--ESPECIALLY FOR A TENDER-
FOOT!

RUBBISH! IT'S NO
ROUGHER THAN A ROCKING
CHAIR!



MEANWHILE, IN STOVEPIPE WELLS...

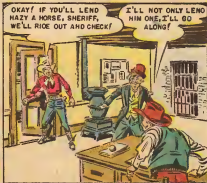
BUT, WILLIAM, THE
STAGE IS AN HOUR
LATE! I AM SURE
SOME OIRE
CIRCUMSTANCE
HAS BEFALLEN
IT!

I'M WORRIED, TOO!
ANDY SMITH HAS
A RECORD FOR
BEIN' ON TIME!



OKAY! IF YOU'LL LEND
HAZY A HORSE, SHERIFF,
WE'LL RIDE OUT AND CHECK!

I'LL NOT ONLY LEND
HIM ONE, I'LL GO
ALONG!



A LITTLE LATER...

RIDERS! AN' ONE OF 'EM'S A FEMALE!

AND THE OTHER'S TED DALE! JINGLE YOUR SPURS!



MERCY! MORE OUTLAWS!

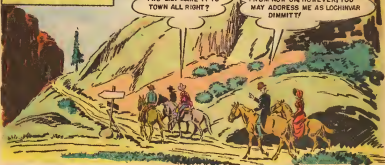
WRONG, MA'AM! I'D KNOW THAT GRAY ANYPLACE! HE'S STORMY NIGHT AND THE HOMBRE STRADDLING HIM IS BILL ELLIOTT!



TEN MINUTES LATER...

ARE YOU SURE YOU TWO CAN MAKE IT TO TOWN ALL RIGHT?

HAVE NO FEARS, WILLIAM! FROM NOW ON, HOWEVER, YOU MAY ADDRESS ME AS LOCHINVAR DIMMITT!



AND STILL LATER...

AFTER LOADING THE STRONGBOX ON PETE'S HORSE, THEY HEADED UP THROUGH THOSE BOULDERS!

IT WON'T BE EASY TO TRACK 'EM IF THE GROUND'S ROCKY, TOO!



IT ISN'T! BUT THEY'VE LEFT MORE THAN JUST HOOFPRIENTS TO FOLLOW! LOOK!



A GOLD PIECE!



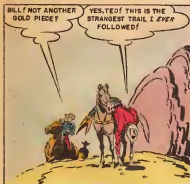
THE STRONGBOX WAS BROKEN,
BUT PETE TIED A ROPE AROUND
IT!

AND WAS IN SUCH A
HURRY, HE DIDN'T TIE IT
TIGHT ENOUGH! LET'S GO!



BILL! NOT ANOTHER
GOLD PIECE?

YES, TED! THIS IS THE
STRANGEST TRAIL I EVER
FOLLOWED!



FOUR GOLD PIECES LATER...

HOLD IT! I HEAR
VOICES!

SO DO I! COMIN'
FROM THAT CLUMP O'
ROCKS YONDER! MUST
BE OUR BIRDS!



LET'S SNEAK UP ON
FOOT AND SEE! LUCKY
TED CAN IDENTIFY ONE
OF THEM!



CAN I HELP IT IF YOUR
HORSE IS ABOUT DONE IN?
MINE'S OKAY! AN' I'M
DUSTIN' AS SOON AS WE
DIVVY THIS GOLD!

YOU LOW DOWN
POLEGAT! YOU AIN'T
RUNNIN' OUT
ON ME!





NEITHER OF YOU ARE RUNNING ANYPLACE! GRAB FOR THE SKY!

OKAY! DON'T SHOOT! I GIVE UP!

THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO!

LATER, IN STOVEPIPE WELLS...



WHERE THE SAM HILL'S THE BRIDE AN' GROOM?

BUYING THEIR TROUSSEAU! I--- HOLY SMOKE! LOOK!



WILD BILL HICKOK, AND CALAMITY JAKE!

WILLIAM! THAT IS MOST UNKIND!

ESPECIALLY AS I DOUBT THAT I SHALL EVER BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN AGAIN!



BUT TWO GUNS! WHO YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO USE ONE!

WRONG! THE CLERK SHOWED ME! WATCH THIS!



WILLIAM! DID I INJURE YOU? WOE IS ME! I SEEM TO HAVE A HABIT OF ENDANGERING YOUR LIFE!

YE-OW!



I'M OKAY! BUT LOOK AT JOE'S NEW STETSON! HE'LL NEVER LET ME HEAR THE LAST OF THIS DAY'S VACATION!



GERONIMO

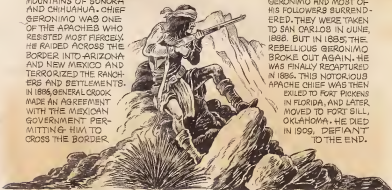
CHIEF OF THE CHIRICAHUA APACHES

THE APACHE INDIANS WERE SUBDUED AND SETTLED ON THE RESERVATION BY GENERAL GEORGE CROOK IN 1873. THEY WERE FORCED TO LIVE ON THE HOT, DRY FLATS OF THE SAN CARLOS. MANY OF THEM WERE UNHAPPY AND LARGE BANDS FLED ACROSS THE BORDER INTO MEXICO AND SETTLED IN THE

MOUNTAINS OF SONORA AND CHIHUAHUA. CHIEF GERONIMO WAS ONE OF THE APACHES WHO RESISTED MOST FIERCELY. HE RAIDED ACROSS THE BORDER INTO ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO AND TERRORIZED THE RANCHERS AND SETTLEMENTS. IN 1885, GENERAL CROOK MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT PERMITTING HIM TO CROSS THE BORDER

WITH TROOPS IN PURSUIT OF THE INDIANS. THIS EXPEDITION CONSISTED OF ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY APACHE SCOUTS AND ONE COMPANY OF THE SIXTH CAVALRY. THE APACHES WERE SURPRISED IN THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS AND MANY OF THEM WERE KILLED IN THE FIGHT THAT FOLLOWED.

GERONIMO AND MOST OF HIS FOLLOWERS SURRENDERED. THEY WERE TAKEN TO SAN CARLOS IN JUNE, 1886. BUT IN 1885, THE REBELLIOUS GERONIMO BROKE OUT AGAIN. HE WAS FINALLY RECAPTURED IN 1886. THIS NOTORIOUS APACHE CHIEF WAS THEN EXILED TO FORT PICKENS IN FLORIDA, AND LATER MOVED TO FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA. HE DIED IN 1909, DEFIANT TO THE END.







A DELL4C + SLINKY SCAN